

PETERBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1955

To which is added

The Annual Report of The

SURVEYOR & CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Public Health Officers of the Authority:-

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. W. Anley Hawes, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.Lond.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector

Mr. C. Green, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,

Assistant Sanitary Inspector

Mr. M.R. Gibbs, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,



Council Offices,
Broad Street,
STAMFORD.

May, 1956.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the
Peterborough Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the Year 1954, with the Annual Report of the Surveyor and Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The general health of the district has again been good.

There has been a slight decrease (2.4 per 1,000 population) in the birth rate, and a slight increase in the death rate (2.1 per 1,000 population) compared with 1954. Deaths of children under 1 year of age were 4, of whom 3 died under the age of 1 month.

Infectious diseases have slightly increased - largely due to Whooping Cough - there were no deaths from these diseases. No Diphtheria has been reported during the year. 5 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis have been notified in the District, but 3 of these were transferred from other areas. There were no deaths from Tuberculosis.

No epidemic of food poisoning has occurred.

Progress has been made with slum clearance - there being 95 houses scheduled for clearance in the next five years. 37 Council Houses have been completed during the year.

The areas of Helpston, Glinton and Castor are still without a satisfactory drainage system, it being impossible to drain the dykes owing to their low ground level. The plans for connecting up with the main sewers of Peterborough City have, of necessity, had to be postponed. I still look upon this work as ranking for the very highest priority.

The water supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant

W. ANLEY HAWES,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	28,186 acres.
Population estimated mid 1955	7,580.
Number of inhabited houses from Rate Book	2,377.
Rateable Value	£24,730.
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£94.2s.3d.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
<u>Live Births:-</u>			
Total	131	64	67
Legitimate	126	61	65
Illegitimate	5	3	2
Crude Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population	17.1		
Comparable Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population	17.0		

Still Births:-

Total	2	-	2
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Deaths:-

Total	89	40	49
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Crude Death Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population	11.7
Comparable Death Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population	11.8

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE

Total	3	1	2
Legitimate	3	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

Total	4	2	2
Legitimate	4	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

RECORDED NUMBER OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
1945	1	1	2
1946	3	-	3
1947	4	1	5
1948	6	-	6
1949	2	-	2
1950	-	-	-
1951	2	-	2
1952	2	-	2
1953	4	-	4
1954	1	1	2
1955	4	-	4

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES,

INJURIES AND CAUSES OF DEATHS.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Tuberculosis respiratory	1	-
Tuberculosis (other forms)	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Measles	-	-
Other Infective & Parasitic diseases	-	-
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	2	1
Malignant neoplasm of lung, bronchus	1	1
Malignant neoplasm of breast	-	2
Malignant neoplasm of uterus	-	1
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasm	6	3
Leukaemia & Aleukaemia	-	-
Diabetes	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	12
Coronary diseases, angina	6	6
Hypertension with heart disease	-	-
Other heart diseases	4	5
Other circulatory diseases	4	5
Influenza	-	-
Pneumonia	1	2
Bronchitis	2	1
Other Diseases Respiratory system	-	1
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	1	-
Nephritis & Nephrosis	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth & Abortion	-	-
Congenital malformation	-	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	3	4
Motor Vehicle accidents	1	1
All other accidents	-	1
Suicide	-	-
Homicide & operations of war	-	-
	<u>40</u>	<u>49</u>


NET DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total under 1 year.
Premature Birth & Malformation etc.	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Other Causes	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Total	3	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	4

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS THEREFROM

	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	-		
Pneumonia	2		+ 3
Dysentery	7		
Para-typhoid	1		
Measles	54		
Whooping Cough	96		
Total	160	-	+ 3

+ Not Notified.



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AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Not Known	Under 1	1 -	2 -	3 -	4 -	5 -	10 -	15 -	20 -	25 -	35 -	45 -	55 -	65 -	Total.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	7
Para-typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Measles	-	1	8	6	8	6	23	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
Whooping Cough	-	9	4	8	2	11	55	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	96
Total	-	10	12	15	10	18	81	9	-	-	2	1	1	1	-	160

TUBERCULOSIS

	Deaths during 1955				New Cases during 1955			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 "	-	-	-	-	+1	-	-	-
15 - 25 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 "	-	-	-	-	-	+1	-	-
35 - 45 "	-	-	-	-	+1	-	-	-
45 - 55 "	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
55 - 65 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65 "	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-

+ Transfers into District

New Cases during 1954 - Pulmonary 7.

FACTORY ACT.

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector).

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect- ions	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	11	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	22	28	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	-	-	-	-
Total	31	39	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more
separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more
"cases").

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness,	1	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drain- age of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:-					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	-	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including Offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	-	-	-	-

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Nursing in the Home

Under the County Council Scheme, District Nursing Services are available in all villages of the District.

Home Helps

Home Helps can be obtained through the County Council Services. Application should be made to:-

The Home Help Organiser,
County Council Offices,
Bridge Street,
Peterborough.

General Hospitals

The Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, administered by the Peterborough No. 12 Area Hospital Management Committee of the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board.

Isolation Hospitals

Infectious cases are admitted to the Peterborough Isolation Hospital under the management of the above Hospital Management Committee.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(a) Provided by the Soke of Peterborough County Council

Child Welfare

Clinics:-

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) Village Hall, Castor. | 2nd & 4th Tuesday afternoon
each month. |
| (b) Kendall's Tea Rooms,
Eye. | 1st & 3rd Tuesday afternoon
each month. |
| (c) Village College,
Glington. | 1st Thursday & 3rd Wednesday
afternoons, each month. |
| (d) School Canteen,
Helpston. | 4th Wednesday afternoon
each month. |
| (e) Congregational Church,
Schoolroom, Maxey. | 4th Thursday afternoon
each month. |
| (f) Village Hall,
Newborough. | 2nd & 4th Tuesday afternoon
each month. |

School Clinic:-

At the Arthur Mellows Village
College, Glinton. Monday mornings.

Diphtheria Immunisation:-

Provided by the General Practitioner Service under the
County Council.

(b) Provided by the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board,
Peterborough Area Hospital Management Committee.

Tuberculosis

The Chest Clinic,
1 Thorpe Road,
Peterborough.

Venereal Disease

The Memorial Hospital,
Midland Road,
Peterborough.

Male Clinics:-

Tuesday
Wednesday

10.30 a.m. - 12 noon.
5.30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Female Clinics:-

Tuesday
Thursday

10.30 a.m. - 12 noon.
5.30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Laboratory Facilities

Public Health Laboratory,
Memorial Hospital,
Peterborough.

Bacteriological examinations are provided for Preventative Medicine of the Public Health Service and for the General Practitioner Health Service.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

The supply from the Peterborough City mains has been adequate in quantity. No analyses have been carried out by this Council.

SECTION F. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Except for a small outbreak of Whooping Cough, infectious diseases have been extremely low.

Food Poisoning.

No cases were reported.

Health Education.

Model Byelaws of the Ministry of Food are in use in the District. Health Education leaflets are obtained from the County Offices, Bridge Street, Peterborough.

National Assistance Act.

No requests were received for removal either to Hospital or Part III accommodation.

Details of Water Supplies to houses in the respective villages as estimated by the Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector.

<u>Parish</u>	Total No. of Houses	(a) Supplied direct to house	Population represented thereby	(b) To Stand- Pipes	Population represented thereby	From wells
AILSWORTH	77	26	79	45	168	8
BOROUGH FEN	90	48	168	35	122	7
CASTOR	206	143	474	54	190	9
DEEPING GATE	87	53	176	33	115	1
ETTON	51	25	88	18	63	8
EYE	685	551	1901	130	460	4
GLINTON	292	243	712	47	162	6
HELPSTON	233	153	528	74	259	6
MARHOLM	61	30	108	28	98	3
MAXEY	121	81	269	32	111	8
NEWBOROUGH	230	156	541	65	227	7
NORTHBOROUGH	138	102	334	25	87	11
PEAKIRK	90	43	150	45	157	2
SUTTON	27	10	35	14	59	3
UPTON	26	15	55	11	39	-

PETERBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor and Water
Engineer for the Year ended 1955

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1955.

Inspections, Complaints, Notices

Inspections 256. Re-visits 204.

Complaints received - 62.

92 Informal Notices were served under Public Health and Housing Acts.

81 Informal Notices (including 6 outstanding from 1954) have been complied with.

14 Informal Notices were outstanding at the end of the year.

Housing Acts

180 Informal Inspections were made during the year.

38 complaints were received during the year.

58 Informal Notices were served during the year.

53 Notices (including 13 outstanding from 1954) have been complied with.

18 Informal Notices were outstanding at the end of the year.

Action under Statutory Powers

Number of houses that were rendered fit after service of Statutory Notices - NIL

Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made - 2.

Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders - 3

Number of houses on which Closing Orders were made - 7.

Number of houses demolished as a result of Closing Orders - 2

Undertakings given not to relet under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 - 3.

Housing (Repairs and Rents) Act, 1954

The resurvey of category 3, 4 and 5 houses was completed during the year in connection with Slum Clearance Proposals to be submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

A total of 95 houses has been scheduled for Slum Clearance within the next 5 years, distributed as follows:-

Ailsworth	6
Borough Fen	1
Deeping Gate	3
Eye	23
Glington	7
Helpston	10
Marholm	1
Maxey	15

Newborough	26
Northborough	1
Peakirk	1
Upton	1

4 Closing Orders were made after the return had been submitted to the Ministry in August.

Infectious Diseases

The number of infectious disease cases notified and dealt with during the year has been Sonne Dysentery (1) Tuberculosis (2) distributed as follows:-

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Sonne Dysentery</u>	<u>Tuberculosis</u>
Eye	1	1
Glington	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
	1	2

National Assistance Act 1948 (Section 50)

One case was dealt with under the above enactment and arrangements for burial made.

Factory Act

The number of factories on the register at the end of the year was 31.

Number of inspections made - 39
 Informal notices served - 2
 Complied with - NIL
 Prosecutions - NIL
 Outworkers - NIL

Shops Act

The number of shops on the register at the end of the year was 47.

Number of inspections made - 53.
 Contraventions found - NIL.

Food and Drugs Act

The number of food premises on the register at the end of the year was 38.

Number of inspections made - 96. Defects found - 2
 Informal notices served to remedy defects - 2.
 Complied with - 1.

Milk and Dairies Regulations

There are only two dairies in the district and these are maintained in a clean and satisfactory condition. All milk is purchased in bottles from outside the district.

Licences issued during the year:-

2	Supplementary licences to retail sterilised milk.
2	" " " " tuberculin tested milk.
2	" " " " pasteurised milk.
2	dealers licences to retail sterilised milk.
2	" " " " pasteurised milk.
3	" " " " tuberculin tested milk.

Slaughterhouses

Licences to the three private slaughterhouses in the district were renewed and the slaughterhouses have been maintained in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Meat Inspection

Meat inspection has been carried out at all slaughterhouses as soon after slaughtering as possible and all carcasses and offal were inspected.

A total of 309 visits were made and the following carcasses and offal examined:-

Beasts	153.
Pigs	289.
Sheep	213.

The following offal was condemned and destroyed:-

2 pigs	livers	-	pleurisy
1 "	liver	-	necrosis
3 "	mesenteries	-	T. B.
7 "	heads	-	T. B.
2 "	lungs	-	pneumonia
4 "	hearts	-	pericarditis
2 beasts	lungs	-	pneumonia
2 "	"	-	T. B.
1 "	cod fat	-	T. B.
2 "	heads & tongues	-	T. B.
2 "	livers	-	T. B.
2 "	"	-	abscesses
5 "	"	-	distomatosis
1 sheeps	lungs	-	worms

Fatstock Guarantee Scheme

Deadweight Certification of Pigs

The Council's Officers continued to act as Certifying Officers at the two approved centres (Eye and Newborough) under the above scheme and a total of 121 pigs were check weighed and certificates issued for guarantee payments.

Rodent Control - Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Number of inspections made:-

Private Dwellings	632
Business Premises	42
Agricultural Premises	58
Council Property	10

The majority of inspections were made at the time of inspections for other purposes.

During the year disinfection treatments were carried out as follows:-

Private Dwellings	4
Refuse Tips	6
Business Premises	4
Schools	1
Sewage Disposal works	4
Sewage Dykes	6

Work carried out by the Council to private premises, business premises and schools was charged to the respective owners.

A number of owners and occupiers of private property where infestation was found, preferred to carry out disinfection work themselves.

Refuse Collection

The collection of house refuse is carried out fortnightly apart from a few isolated and outlying properties. The work is carried out by a private Contractor and no complaints have been received.

Night Soil Collection

The collection of night soil is also carried out by Contract and no complaints have been received.

Plans

The number of plans submitted for approval under Building Byelaws was 59 as against 57 in 1954

Housing by Private Enterprise

12 plans for 70 dwellings were submitted for approval during the year. This total includes a proposed private estate of 56 bungalows at Northborough, for part of which planning permission has been given. The remainder are distributed as follows:-

Eye (5) Glinton (4) Maxey (1) Northborough (2)
Newborough (2)

The number of houses completed during the year has been 17 as against 26 in 1954, distributed as follows:-

Eye (3) Glinton (4) Marholm (1) Newborough (1)
Northborough (8)

This brings the total number of houses erected by private enterprise since 1945 to 163.

6 houses were in course of erection at the end of the year distributed as follows:-

Deeping Gate (1) Eye (2) Glinton (2) Northborough (1)

72 other dwellings for which plans have been approved had not been commenced at the end of the year.

Housing Act 1949 - Improvement Grants

Improvement grants in respect of 18 houses have been approved during the year, the total amount of grant being £5,238 (an average of £291 per dwelling)

Work has been completed at 6 of the properties and is proceeding at all but two of the remainder.

Council's Housing Schemes

The number of houses completed during the year has been 27, distributed as follows:-

Eye (15) Northborough (8) Upton (4)

The number of houses in course of erection at the end of the year was 54 distributed as follows:-

Eye (18) Glinton (6) Newborough (28) Upton (2)

Marholm Hutment Camp

During the year 2 more huts were closed and there now remain only 2 huts still occupied and these will be vacated early in 1956.

Council Houses

(a) Maintenance

No external decorations have been carried out during the year. Repair work has been chiefly renewal of fire-bricks and firebars to grates, repairs to roofs, gutters, and fences, and the provision of new grates and rainwater tanks to the pre-war houses.

(b) Improvement Works

The provision of Hot Water Supplies to pre-war houses was put in hand during the year. At 55 houses the work has been completed, and at 28 houses, the work was nearing completion. Work at the remaining houses will be completed during 1956.

Drainage and Sewerage Disposal

The provision of additional sewers and pumping stations at Eye to allow for the pumping of all sewage into the City of Peterborough's sewers at Newark was completed during the year with the exception of the portion at Crowland Road, north of the railway, where difficulties have arisen in pumping the sewage from the existing Pumping Station into the sewer on the south side of the railway. The Consulting Engineers have this matter under consideration, also the segregation of surface water from the foul sewers, as apart from the additional cost of pumping this added volume, there is also the danger of the sewers not being able to take the additional water and the consequent flooding of the road at the junction of Peterborough Road and High Street. This also is being considered by the Consulting Engineers. The number of connections made during the year to the new sewers at Peterborough Road and Hodney Road, Eye has been 22 (13 Peterborough Road and 9 Hodney Road.)

Drainage conditions in the remainder of the district are continually worsening due to the erection of new houses, and for which no proper systems of sewage collection and disposal are available. In a district such as this, where the whole area is very flat and the subsoil chiefly clay, it is impossible to dispose of the effluent from the houses by means of Septic Tanks and soak-aways, while to take the drainage to watertight cesspools which would have to be emptied frequently, would be a costly business. Further, this effluent should be disposed of in an efficient manner as not to cause a nuisance. To tip in on to refuse dumps, is, I suggest, not a safe or hygienic method.

As the Council have no adequate sewage disposal works in their district, it will be appreciated that there is great difficulty in disposing of effluent from cesspools. To provide small temporary sewage disposal works is a sheer waste of time and money as unless there are adequate streams in which to discharge the treated effluent, no useful purpose is served. In this district, no such streams are available.

Again, to take overflows from these Septic Tanks or Cesspits into the surface water drains in the Highway, which discharge into open dykes in or near the centre of the villages, as at Glington, Helpston, Maxey and Castor, is causing a considerable nuisance and is a danger to Public Health. This unsatisfactory state of affairs is aggravated by the fact that 90% of the houses are supplied direct from the Council mains, the piped water supply having been provided as far back as 1939.

The seriousness of the present position is fully realised by the Council, who, several years ago, prepared and submitted plans for sewerage schemes to the Ministry. No sanction has yet been received for the commencement of any part of the work in the above mentioned villages, nor is sanction likely to be received for at least another six months due to the embargo placed on all new capital projects or extensions of existing schemes, by the Ministry. The restrictions apply to all capital expenditure which has not already received loan sanction, even though it may already have been approved in principal, or for the purposes of a Grant.

Water Supplies

The total quantity of water purchased in bulk from the City of Peterborough has been 64,238,000 gallons compared with 59,428,000 gallons in 1954. This increase of nearly 5,000,000 gallons is due chiefly to the abnormal number of fractures in mains at Newborough and Borough Fen, caused by subsidence in the peat soil following a very dry summer. Services laid to new buildings, improvements to old properties involving the installation of baths, wash-basins and W.C's and the provision of hot water systems in pre-war council houses have also contributed in some measure to the increase.

The work of laying a new 3" main at Woodcroft Road, Marholm was completed during the year.

Petroleum (Regulations) Act

45 licences were issued during the year to store petroleum spirit for private useage or for sale. The amount of fees collected in respect of licences issued amounted to £26. 5. 0d.

Omnibus Passenger Shelters

Temporary timber constructed shelters have been erected at Castor, Deeping Gate, Etton, Glington Housing Estate, Glington Road, Helpston, Peakirk and Upton - Sutton Cross Roads.

A permanent brick built shelter was completed at Maxey and brick built shelters at Glington, Helpston and Northborough are in course of erection.

Litter Baskets

Litter baskets are being provided outside all omnibus passenger shelters.

Street Name Plates

The erection of street name plates has been carried out at Ailsworth, Castor, Northborough and Peakirk.

I am, Sir and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. GREEN.

March 1956.

